

### **REMARKS**

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-2 and 4-20 will be pending in the above-identified application and stand ready for further action on the merits.

Claims 1, 5 and 8-18 have been amended. Claim 3 has been cancelled. Claims 19-20 have been added.

The amendments made herein to the claims do not incorporate new matter into the application as originally filed. Additionally, the amendments presented herein are also closely based on the suggested claim amendments set forth at pages 7-11 of the outstanding office action.

While the Examiner's suggestions at pages 7-11 were closely followed when amending the claims, it is noted that instantly amended claim 9 uses a simplified "or" grouping language therein, in place of the Examiner's suggested more traditional "Markush" grouping language (*this change was made since claim 9 as currently drafted is a multiple-dependent claim*). Additionally, each of instant claims 5 and 19 as amended herein refers to "a highly soluble epoxy resin (G)" since the same is subsequently referred to in the same claims (*i.e., this change has been made to help ensure proper antecedent basis for the subsequent use of the term "the highly soluble epoxy resin" in the claims*).

Applicants greatly appreciate the Examiner's provision of suggested claim amendments at page 7-11 of the office action, and submit that their following of the Examiner's amendment suggestions herein should serve to greatly expedite allowance of the instant case.

### ***Claim Objections***

Claims 5-10 are objected to based upon informalities as pointed out by the Examiner at page 2 of the outstanding Office Action.

Claims 5 and 8-10 have been amended herein in order to remove the noted informalities. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that this objection has been overcome and must be withdrawn.

***Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 112, Second Paragraph***

Claims 5-8 and 10-18 are rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicants regard as their invention. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested inasmuch as the claims as instantly amended particularly and distinctly set forth the inventive discovery that the Inventors regard as their own. That is all that the statute requires.

***Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 112, First Paragraph***

Claim 1, 2 and 4-18 are rejected under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph. Reconsideration and withdraw of the rejection is respectfully requested based on the amendments presented herein.

***Provisional Nonstatutory Obviousness-Type Double Patenting Rejection***

Claims 1-18 have been provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being patentable over the combined limitations of claims 1-4, 20-42, 44, 45 and 47 of co-pending application no. 11/991,785 (published as US 2009/0261298).

Enclosed herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer that effectively obviates the above provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection over claims 1-4, 20-42, 44, 45 and 47 of co-pending application no. 11/991,785.

***Conclusion***

Based on the amendments and remarks presented herein, it is respectfully requested that the outstanding rejections and objections be withdrawn, and a notice of allowance be issued indicating the allowability of pending claims 1-2 and 4-20 under the provisions of Title 35 of the United States Code.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John W. Bailey, Registration No. 32881 at the telephone number of the undersigned below to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Director is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge any fees required during the pendency of the above-identified application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

Dated: June 4, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

By 

John W. Bailey

Registration No.: 32881

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road, Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

703-205-8000

Attachment(s): Terminal Disclaimer (over co-pending application no. 11/991,785).